

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 ERDA-05 EB-08 NSF-01
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ARA/ECA - R ELTZ
ARA/ECP - D TAHER
ERDA - P JODOIN
EB/ORF/FSE - R MARTIN
NSF/OIP - M HELLMANN
-----061677 031304Z /46

P 031251Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 181759

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, ENGR, BR

SUBJECT: U.S.-BRAZIL JOINT GROUP ON COOPERATION IN ENERGY
TECHNOLOGY (ET)

REFS: A. SCICOUN MEMO TO AMB, JUN 18; B. GOECKERMAN/JODOIN
TELECON, JUL 14; C. BRASILIA 5867; D. BRASILIA 5928

1. WE AGREE MEETINGS OF JOINT GROUPS BEST SCHEDULED FOR
FALL AFTER VISIT OF SECRETARY VANCE. ALSO, CONCUR WITH GOB
AND EMBASSY POSITION (PARA 3B, REFTEL D) THAT S&T AND ET
JOINT GROUPS SHOULD MEET AT SAME PLACE AND IN SEQUENCE.
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2. REF B INDICATES THAT CHANGE IN BRASILIA ENERGY R&D
PRIORITIES GIVING INCREASED ATTENTION TO COAL CONVERSION
AND BIOCONVERSION MAKES IT UNLIKELY THAT BRAZILIAN SOLAR
ENERGY TEAM LIKELY TO VISIT IN NEAR FUTURE. SINCE GOB
HAS NOT YET NAMED COORDINATORS FOR COAL CONVERSION AND
BIOCONVERSION, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO OBTAIN NAMES OF GOB

OFFICIALS THAT COULD BE CONTACTED TO ASSIST IN PREPARATION OF DISCUSSION OF THESE AND OTHER POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS AT FALL MEETING.

3. OUR UNDERSTANDING OF STATE OF PLAY VIS-A-VIS HYDROGEN COOPERATION (REFTEL C) IS THAT BRAZILIAN COMMENTS ON FINEP/ERDA WORK PLAN MAY REACH DEPARTMENT IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

4. PROPOSED LDC PROGRAM (PARA 6 OF REFTTEL A) PRESUMABLY REFERS TO NON-NUCLEAR ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY APPROVED BY WHITE HOUSE. FOR EMBASSY'S BACKGROUND: PROGRAM IS TO BE CHAIRED BY STATE, MANAGED BY ERDA, INVOLVES SEVERAL OTHER AGENCIES, INCLUDING AID AND WOULD TAP NUMBER OF DIFFERENT FUNDING SOURCES. IT HAS POSSIBLE APPLICATION TO BRAZIL. WE WILL PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION ON PROGRAM TO EMBASSY WHEN IT IS POSSIBLE TO DO SO. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT NON-IEA MEMBERS CAN PARTICIPATE IN IEA R&D PROGRAMS UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO NOT DISCOUNT IEA (PARA 3A, REFTTEL D) AS POSSIBLE MECHANISM FOR MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT. WHILE U.S. WOULD WELCOME SUCH PARTICIPATION, IT WOULD NEED TO BE NEGOTIATED DIRECTLY BETWEEN GOB AND IEA.

5. IF EMBASSY AND GOB IN AGREEMENT THAT S&T AND ET GROUPS SHOULD BE MERGED (REFS A & D), IS THERE ANY SPECIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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REASON WHY THIS COULD NOT BE DONE BEFORE FALL MEETINGS?
WHAT IS EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF BENEFITS OF SUCH MOVE? CHRISTOPHER

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